Mr. President: I do not think it is relevant, because it is entirely within my competence.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I am not questioning the ruling of the President.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Pazhayannur):* On Monday one of my friends has to perform a religious ceremony. His father's anniversary falls on Monday.

Mr. President: I cannot take into account individual religious ceremonies. Tomorrow is a Jewish Sabbath which relates to a particular community and so I fix it for Monday. I propose, subject to His Highness' sanction, that the sitting should start at 9 a.m. in the morning, if the hon'ble members have no objection, to the time now. If there is any objection, I will be glad to hear it. The object is that we may be able to get through the debate in good time. I myself have to go to Trichur and other members may wish to leave that day, and if there is no objection I will suggest that we shall start at 9 a.m. on Monday morning, subject to His Highness' sanction.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know whether it is possible to have it at 10?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Such of the other members who are coming from outside may come by the morning train which will reach here at 9 a.m. So, in view of that fact, it may be had at 10.

Mr. President: I will fix 9-30 as the time. I think there is no objection to 9-30. I will obtain His Highness' sanction for an additional day for this session which will start at 9-30 a.m.

The House agreed

SHORT NOTICE RESOLUTION

Conveying greetings of the people of Cochin to H. E. Marshal Chiang-kai-shek and Madam Chiang on the occasion of their visit to India

Mr. President: I have also received a short notice resolution from the Hon'ble Member Mr. A. V. Moothedan. The resolution is as follows.—"*This Council recommends to Government that the Government of India may be requested to convey to His Excellency Marshal Chiang-kai-shek and Madam Chiang, the greetings of the people of Cochin on the occasion of their first visit to India and the feelings of admiration of the great services rendered by the Generalissimo.*"

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I propose to admit this resolution as a short notice resolution to be taken up after question time tomorrow.

Elections to the Irrigation Board—Announcement of Results

Mr. President: Messrs. P. Achyuta Menon, K. S. Panicker and C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri have been elected as members of the Irrigation Board.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS—NON-OFFICIAL BILLS

The Cochin Child Marriage Restraint Act (Amendment) Bill

Mr. President: We will resume now the discussion on Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon's motion for the introduction of the Cochin Child Marriage Restraint Act (Amendment) Bill.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* The object of my Bill has been shortly and clearly put in the objects and reasons and I have tried to explain the reasons and motives which actuated me in moving this amendment. I do not think it necessary for me to take up the time of the House by repeating all the arguments. But at the same time I think I have to bring to the notice of this House certain facts, certain insinuations levelled against me by some because of certain motives. The Hon'ble Member for Mulakunnathukavu last time was saying that though the expressed object of the Bill was to see that the Brahmin community sentiments are not wounded, there is a hidden motive too. I may assure and re-assure the hon'ble members that I am the last person who wants to have his motives hidden by other ideas or by words. I might further inform him that no motive of any thought whatever has impelled me to bring forward this Bill and I am not the sort of person who will be moving Bills because of influences, pecuniary or otherwise. I have already made plain to this House that I feel there is a strong section of His Highness' subjects here who are feeling very strongly in this matter. They feel that the cherished sentiments are being violated by the Act which has come into force and it is to see that they can live in the State without their sentiments being flouted by a majority of Non-Brahmins in the Council. It is with that view that I have brought this Bill before the House. I do not think it necessary for me to discuss further the objects and I commend this Bill for the acceptance of this House.

Motion that the Bill be read in Council was put and lost, 10 voting for and 16 against

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